

PERCIVAL, THE POET.

The Man Who Made Webster's Dictionary and Died in Poverty.

When the young and accomplished widow of Fairfield made the attempt to support her husband and children by the publication and sale of Percival's poems, the poems were announced as an organ of the Boston Herald, under the heading: "Buy a Broom! Buy a Broom! Come Buy a Broom!"

The gentle, sensitive Percival, who had been a victim to this mode of attack, shortly after the first publication of his poems and the criticism upon the same, he was found insensible in a stone quarry, where he had sought to rid himself of the train which had proved his curse by butting his head against the rocky walls. His literary assassin represented this attempt at self-destruction as the result of disappointment in love, but there was not an incident connected with his social relations to justify or give color to this conclusion. He was eminently an ethical nature—without passion.

He published no more but devoted himself entirely to scientific pursuits, for which he had a remarkable aptitude, until his physical necessities compelled him to become a back writer for distinguished literary men of more practical ability. He was the sole author, compiler and editor of the first edition of Webster's Dictionary, Dictionary, giving not only the definitions, but the root and history of over 15,000 words derived from other languages, including all the written languages of the world—thirty in number—of every one of which he must have had some critical knowledge. Regarded in this light, it is the most wonderful literary labor ever performed by one man. No other lexicographer ever accomplished it. Dr. Johnson's Dictionary, compiled by his secretary, Samuel Johnson, says of him: "His dictionary is a surprising work for one man, but sufficient examples in foreign languages show that the work is too much for one man, and that a society alone pretend to publish a standard dictionary." Webster's first dictionary was only a compilation from standard authorities, with the addition of purely American idioms and etymology, exhibiting neither originality nor research, being adapted only to the use of schools—to the learners and not to the learned—and was rejected as a standard by the British Association of Learning on account of the slang phrases, with only a local significance, which it attempted to introduce into the common English language. In regard to derivative words, which comprise so large a share of our language, the dictionary offered by Percival and his co-workers in the name of New Webster, is now adopted as the highest standard authority by all the universities of Great Britain and America. The great fortune of Noah Webster in life, and his world-wide fame as the greatest lexicographer of any age, are based solely upon the unrequited labor of James G. Percival, who died in poverty in a miner's cabin in Western Wisconsin, "unworn, unloved and unrecognized."

The only remuneration which Percival ever received for this unparalleled work was a bare subsistence—which probably did not exceed \$20 a year—a place to live and his necessary working tools, books of reference. That he "lived in a garret after the manner of the old poets," was probably true in his student days, but when he undertook the work of the dictionary his employers built him a sturdy and comfortable house. It was a small but dignified, with out window or door facing any public thoroughfare, lighted from the top—a sort of model of the style in which, surrounded by his books, he could pursue his labor uninterrupted by life curiosity. It was reported—what truth I cannot vouch—that the study and the library which had been furnished him, when he had finished his work, were left behind by his employers. They were not mentioned in the "bond."—*Has. B. B. B. in the State (W. T.)*

THE TRUE TEST.

If a man is hungry within an hour more or less after a meal he is a diabetic, it shows his stomach is not able to dispose of what he has eaten, but to eat again and thus increase more work, is absurdity. "Take Dr. Jones' Kidney and Bladder Cure," it is a perfect tonic, appetizer, blood purifier, a cure for ague and malaria diseases. Price 50 cents of Heber & Co.

Notice.

All persons desiring to settle their accounts with us while the books are still in our hands, must do so on or before the first day of April 1884, as after the above date, the accounts will be placed in the hands of a collector for settlement.

W. G. WILLIAMS,
N. H. BLOSSER.

CAUSE OF FAILURE.

Want of confidence accounts for half of the business failures of today. Miller & Case, the Drug, is not liable to fail for the want of confidence in Dr. Jones' Cough and Lung Syrup, for he gives away a bottle free to all who are suffering with Coughs, Colds, Asthma, Consumption and all affections of the Throat and Lungs.

Sing, Oh Sing, that Song

How can you, when you cough at every breath? Why get a bottle of Dr. Jones' Cough and Lung Syrup, and you will be cured. It cures coughs, colds, consumption, whooping cough, and all diseases of the lungs and it will cost you nothing to test it, if you call at B. C. Reber's drug store.

April 19th, 1883—1 year.

BUCKLE'S ARNICA BALM.

The greatest medical wonder of the world. Warranted to speedily cure Burns, Bruises, Cuts, Ulcers, Salt Rheum, Fever Sores, Cancers, Piles, Chilblains, Corns, Tetters, Chapped Hands, and all other skin eruptions, guaranteed to cure in every instance, or money refunded. 25 cents per box. For sale by F. Harrington.

Feb. 15, 1 yr.

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March 1, '83—1 yr.

Thousands Say So.

Mr. T. W. Atkins Girard, Kan., writes: "I never hesitated to recommend your Electric Bitters to my customers, they give entire satisfaction and are rapid sellers." Electric Bitters are the purest and best medicine known, and the only cure for Kidney and Liver complaints. Purify the blood and regulate the bowels. No family can afford to be without them. They will save hundreds of dollars in doctor's bills every year. Sold at fifty cents, by F. Harrington.

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Feb. 22, '83—1 yr.

GRAVE ROBBERS.

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COLUMBUS, Hocking Valley & Toledo RAILWAY.

The Shortest Route Between
LAKE ERIE
—AND THE—
OHIO RIVER

TIME CARD.
Taking Effect, Nov. 18, '83.
CENTRAL TIME.

SOUTH BOUND.

Ly Toledo	4:00 a.m.	10:10 a.m.	5:55 p.m.
Cincinnati	4:15	11:25	7:10
Columbus	4:30	11:40	7:25
Dayton	4:45	11:55	7:40
Indianapolis	5:00	12:10	7:55
St. Louis	5:15	12:25	8:10
Chicago	5:30	12:40	8:25
St. Paul	5:45	12:55	8:40
Portland	6:00	1:10	8:55
Seattle	6:15	1:25	9:10
San Francisco	6:30	1:40	9:25
San Diego	6:45	1:55	9:40
Los Angeles	7:00	2:10	9:55
San Jose	7:15	2:25	10:10
San Francisco	7:30	2:40	10:25
San Diego	7:45	2:55	10:40
Los Angeles	8:00	3:10	10:55
San Jose	8:15	3:25	11:10
San Francisco	8:30	3:40	11:25
San Diego	8:45	3:55	11:40
Los Angeles	9:00	4:10	11:55
San Jose	9:15	4:25	12:10
San Francisco	9:30	4:40	12:25
San Diego	9:45	4:55	12:40
Los Angeles	10:00	5:10	12:55
San Jose	10:15	5:25	1:10
San Francisco	10:30	5:40	1:25
San Diego	10:45	5:55	1:40
Los Angeles	11:00	6:10	1:55
San Jose	11:15	6:25	2:10
San Francisco	11:30	6:40	2:25
San Diego	11:45	6:55	2:40
Los Angeles	12:00	7:10	2:55
San Jose	12:15	7:25	3:10
San Francisco	12:30	7:40	3:25
San Diego	12:45	7:55	3:40
Los Angeles	1:00	8:10	3:55
San Jose	1:15	8:25	4:10
San Francisco	1:30	8:40	4:25
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Los Angeles	2:00	9:10	4:55
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